

REPORT

SECRET

DATE DISTR. ²⁸ June 1948
NO. OF PAGES 3

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1-HUM

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSES OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT OF 1917, U. S. C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED. HOWEVER, INFORMATION CONTAINED IN BODY OF THE FORM MAY BE UTILIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES OF THE ISSUING AGENCY.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION FOR THE RESEARCH
USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

50X1-HUM

1. The "Vityas", which is being refitted at Wismar for research expeditions into the tropics, is the former German freighter "Mars", launched at the Weserwerft in Bremen in 1938. Her tonnage is reckoned by experts to be between 3500 and 4500 and she has an overall length of approximately 330 feet.
2. Since being handed over by the British to the Russians in 1945, the appearance of the ship has undergone a complete change. The upper deck has been covered and amidships the superstructure has been extended aft by fifty-one feet to include primarily a large map-room and a library.
3. Two electrically-driven cable rollers have been installed in the bow, the cable from which runs out over the bowsprit. For this purpose an extra section has been added to the deck-planking in the bow. The cable is run out along a channel-iron, at the end of which a roller is fitted. A winch is also fitted in the forepart of the ship to enable this operation to be done by hand.
4. The ventilators, which gave the ship a characteristic appearance, have not been moved around in the course of the refitting. These are situated as follows: forward, two ventilators 1.8 meters high, one to port and one to starboard of the bridge, two 4 meters high alongside the mizzenmast, and two 2.5 meters high aft.
5. The funnel, which is the normal type smokestack with an oval aperture, has undergone no alterations. The wireless compartment is situated between the bridge and the funnel, and above the bridge is a small searchlight.
6. The ship is fitted with a 2000 h.p. Diesel engine, constructed by the firm of Kopp in Kiel, and is driven by a single propellor. On its test run the "Vityas" reached a maximum speed of nineteen knots.
7. The cold-storage plant is an ammonia installation, supplied and fitted by the Firma Nema, Denetskaner Maschinenfabrik-Lausitz. The insulation material used is Kieselruhr and mineral wool.

~~SECRET~~

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DISTRIBUTION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

Document No.
NO CHANGE in CLASS.
☐ DECLASS

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

Extracted by

LR
50X1-HUM

U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

50X1-HUM

-2-

8. The "Vityas", which has now been painted white, was due to sail to her home port, Leningrad, on 20 April 1948. Provision was being made for a crew of twenty to take charge of her during the voyage.
9. [redacted] no scientists are likely to join the "Vityas" 50X1-HUM before her departure from Wismar. Further details of scientific equipment being fitted were unobtainable.

SECRET CONTROL
U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET

SECRET CONTROL
U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

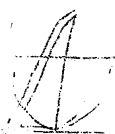
-3-

The "VITYAS"

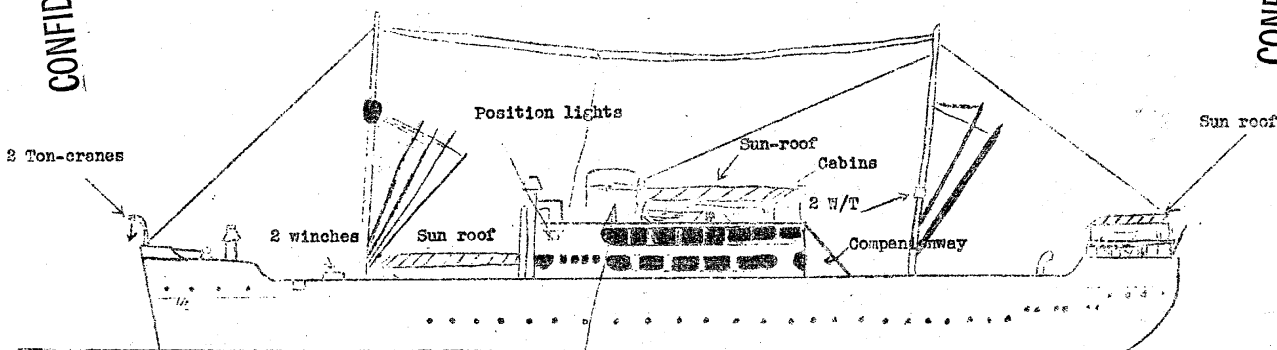
(Formerly the "LAERS")

Scale: 1 : 500

Length: overall 110 m.



Lifeboat
Suspended



Funnel with a red stripe and
Russian emblem.